

2. (Six Times Amended) A process for production of an essential oil-rich hop extract, comprising the steps of:

(1) extracting hops with supercritical or subcritical carbon dioxide solvent at an extraction pressure of higher than 100 kg/cm^2 to obtain a carbon dioxide extract;

(2) separating bitter components from the carbon dioxide extract at a pressure between 100 kg/cm^2 and said extraction pressure; and then

(3) separating an essential oil-rich hop extract from the carbon dioxide extract at a pressure of lower-than 100 kg/cm^2 ,

wherein the ratio of essential oil content (ml) to α -acid (g) in the extracted hops is increased by at least 2.